

GEODETIC SURVEY MARKERS

REPÈRES DE LÉVÉS GÉODÉSIQUES



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Typical tablet in a survey marker.

To date some 38,000 geodetic markers have been established in the ten provinces and two territories of Canada. They have been established at considerable expense with public money — your money as a taxpayer. If you should discover that a geodetic marker is likely to be destroyed or disturbed by farming operations, road or other construction, kindly let me know immediately either by writing to the address below or, if it is urgent, by phoning 613-994-5775 collect.

I hope this note has served to make the operations of the Geodetic Survey of Canada a little clearer to you. If you have any questions please write to the address below and I will do my best to answer them promptly.

If you would like to receive a copy of the official description and latitude and longitude of a geodetic marker on your property, together with an aerial photograph and map of your property, please let me know. I would be pleased to supply these items free of charge.

Jusqu'à ce jour environ 38,000 repères géodésiques ont été établis dans les 10 provinces et les 2 territoires du Canada. Ces stations ont été posées à grands frais avec les fonds publics, c'est-à-dire avec votre argent en tant que contribuable. Si vous découvrez qu'une station de levé géodésique est sur le point d'être détruite ou endommagée par des travaux agricoles, ou par la construction d'une route ou d'autre chose, veuillez m'en avertir immédiatement soit en écrivant à l'adresse ci-dessous soit, en cas d'urgence, en téléphonant à frais virés au numéro 613-994-5775.

J'espère que cette lettre vous permettra de mieux comprendre les travaux du service des Levés géodésiques du Canada. Si vous avez d'autres questions, veuillez les envoyer à l'adresse ci-dessous et je m'empresserai d'y répondre.

Si vous voulez recevoir une copie de la description officielle de même que la latitude et la longitude d'un repère géodésique situé sur votre propriété, ainsi qu'une photographie aérienne et une carte de votre propriété, veuillez nous le faire savoir. Nous serons heureux de vous envoyer gratuitement ces articles.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Géodésien fédéral,
Geodetic Survey of Canada,
615 Booth Street,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E4.

Cat. No.: M56-1072

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Q. What happens if private property is damaged?

A. The greatest care is taken by the survey party to avoid damage. However, sometimes minor damage is unavoidable. In these cases the owner may claim compensation from the Government. The survey chief will explain how this may be done. The owner is absolved from all third party claims while the survey work is being done on his property and, upon request, will be given a document by the party chief to this effect.

Q. What about a geodetic marker already on private property?

A. Much the same procedure applies as described above. In this case the survey party may need to visit the marker to make measurements to new markers that they are establishing in the general vicinity. To do this they will need the landowner's permission in the usual way. The procedure in the case of unavoidable damage is the same as for a new marker described above.

Q. What about surveyors from organizations other than Geodetic who may wish to visit the marker?

A. No. It can only do so with the permission of the owner. During a geodetic survey, permission will be requested by a member of the survey party, usually the chief, who will produce his credentials on request. He will explain why the marker is needed and what exactly needs to be done in establishing it.

Q. Why are geodetic survey markers placed on private property?

A. We usually try to establish our markers on public lands such as roadways. However, it is often necessary to set one on private land to ensure that the marker will not be disturbed or because the property contains a hill or other point from which measurements can be made to markers nearby. In choosing the location for a marker we also consider accessibility by motor vehicle. This is because it is often necessary to build temporary survey towers over the marker to see other stations. This in turn means that heavy towers and other materials must be transported to the site by truck.

Q. How does such a station affect private property?

A. The property is not affected at all in the legal sense. The marker does not mark a property corner or boundary, nor is it supposed to. It simply serves as an "anchor" or starting point for various other surveys.

Q. Does the Geodetic Survey have the legal right to establish a marker on private property?

A. No. It can only do so with the permission of the owner. During a geodetic survey, permission will be requested by a member of the survey party, usually the chief, who will produce his credentials on request. He will explain why the marker is needed and what exactly needs to be done in establishing it.

A. While we encourage the use of our markers by other organizations, they too must obtain permission from the owner before entering a property. We can, of course, assume no responsibility for their actions. What they do and how they do it is something that must be settled between them and the landowner.

Dominion Geodesist,
Geodetic Survey of Canada,
615 Booth Street,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E4.

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